

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-21 were previously pending in the application. By the Amendment, Claim 1 is currently amended, Claim 3 is canceled without prejudice, and Claims 2, 4 and 6-21 remain unchanged.

Claims 1-4 and 6-21 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Penaranda (US 6,186,656).

Claim 1

Independent Claim 1 has been amended and now recites a motorized kitchen appliance, comprising: a housing part; a drive shaft mounted in said housing part; a rotating element driven by said drive shaft; and a circlip securing said drive shaft against movement of said drive shaft in at least a first longitudinal direction of said drive shaft relative to said housing part, wherein the circlip includes a protruding wire formed by two legs of said circlip, the circlip engaging at least a portion of the housing part between the two legs to restrict rotational movement of the circlip with respect to the housing part.

Penaranda does not disclose the circlip including “a protruding wire formed by two legs of said circlip, the circlip engaging at least a portion of the housing part between the two legs to restrict rotational movement of the circlip with respect to the housing part,” as recited in Claim 1. Penaranda does not disclose any type of protruding wire with two legs engaging a portion of the housing between the two legs. Also, Penaranda does not disclose any type of structure restricting rotational movement of the circlip with respect to the housing. Rather, the circlips (15, 16) in Penaranda are free to rotate with the shaft (4).

For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 4 depend from Claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

Claim 6

Independent Claim 6 recites a motorized kitchen appliance, comprising: a housing; a drive shaft mounted for rotation with respect to the housing, the drive shaft being movable in an axial direction with respect to the housing; and a circlip removably connected to the drive shaft and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a first axial direction.

Penaranda does not disclose, among other things, “the drive shaft being movable in an axial direction with respect to the housing,” as recited in Claim 6. Rather, Penaranda discloses the shaft (4) being fixed in an axial direction. (See Penaranda at lines 6-7 the Abstract and column 4, lines 34-37) In Penaranda, the two circlips (15, 16) prevent movement of the shaft in both axial directions. Therefore, the shaft (4) is not movable in an axial direction with respect to the housing.

For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent Claim 6. Therefore, Claim 6 is allowable. Claims 7-15 depend from Claim 6 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

Claim 8 depends from Claim 6 and further recites the circlip including a protruding wire formed by two legs of said circlip, the circlip engaging at least a portion of the housing between the two legs to restrict rotational movement of the circlip with respect to the housing. As described above in relation to Claim 1, Penaranda does not disclose the circlips (15, 16) including a protruding wire having two legs and engaging a portion of the housing between the legs to restrict rotational movement of the circlips (15, 16). Penaranda provides no disclosure that the circlips (15, 16) includes any elements that restrict rotational movement of the circlips (15, 16). For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 8.

Claim 11 depends from Claim 6 and further recites a key supported by the housing and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a second axial direction being opposite the first axial direction. As described above in relation to Claim 6, the shaft of Penaranda is fixed in an axial direction. Penaranda does not disclose a key supported by the housing and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a second axial direction. Therefore, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 11.

Claim 14 depends from Claim 6 and further recites that the circlip includes a formed wire having an overlapping circular portion defining a diameter and two legs extending outwardly from the circular portion, the diameter of the circular portion being increased when the legs are moved towards one another. As shown in Fig. 3 of Penaranda, the circlip (16) is a C-shaped semi-circular circlip in which the diameter is *decreased* when the ends are moved toward one another. Also, Penaranda does not disclose the circlips (15, 16) having an overlapping circular portion. There are various types of circlips in the art with different constructions and having different advantages or disadvantages. Claim 14 recites a specific type of circlip having a specific construction. The circlips (15, 16) of Penaranda are a type of circlip that is the opposite of the circlip recited in Claim 14. Therefore, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 14.

Claim 17

Independent Claim 17 recites a motorized kitchen fruit press, comprising: a housing; an electromotor disposed within the housing; a drive shaft mounted for rotation with respect to the housing and being rotationally driven by the electromotor, the drive shaft being movable in an axial direction with respect to the housing; a rotating element protruding from the housing and connected to the drive shaft for receiving a piece of fruit containing juice; and a circlip removably connected to the drive shaft and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a first axial direction.

Penaranda does not disclose “the drive shaft being movable in an axial direction with respect to the housing,” as recited in Claim 17. Rather, as described above in relation to Claim 6, Penaranda discloses the shaft (4) being fixed in an axial direction. The arguments above regarding Claim 6 are also applicable to Claim 17.

For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent Claim 17. Therefore, Claim 17 is allowable. Claims 18-21 depend from Claim 17 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

Claim 18 depends from Claim 17 and further recites that the housing includes a housing part fixed with respect to the housing, the circlip engaging the housing part to

restrict rotational movement of the circlip with respect to the housing. As described above in relation to Claims 1 and 8, Penaranda does not disclose the circlips (15, 16) including a protruding wire having two legs and engaging a portion of the housing between the legs to restrict rotational movement of the circlips (15, 16). Therefore, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 18.

Claim 20 depends from Claim 17 and further recites a key supported by the housing and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a second axial direction being opposite the first axial direction, an electric circuit being closed when the drive shaft contacts the key. As described above in relation to Claim 11, Penaranda does not disclose a key supported by the housing and limiting axial movement of the drive shaft in a second axial direction. The arguments above regarding Claim 11 are also applicable to Claim 20. For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 20.

Claim 21 depends from Claim 17 and further recites that the circlip includes a formed wire having an overlapping circular portion defining a diameter and two legs extending outwardly from the circular portion, the diameter of the circular portion being increased when the legs are moved towards one another. As described above in relation to Claim 14, Penaranda does not disclose a circlip having the specific construction recited in the claims. The arguments above regarding Claim 14 are also applicable to Claim 21. For these and other reasons, Penaranda does not disclose the subject matter defined by Claim 21.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-21 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig J. Loest", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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